

# INFORMATION LETTER

Not for  
Publication

NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

For Members  
Only

No. 1006

Washington, D. C.

October 7, 1944

## PRICE CEILINGS FOR PEAS, ASPARAGUS, AND TOMATOES PACKED IN SOME AREAS AFFECTED BY OPA AMENDMENT

The Office of Price Administration has issued an amendment to Supplement 7 of Food Products Regulation 1, making certain changes in the price ceiling regulations covering canned green peas, asparagus, and tomatoes.

Skagit and Snohomish Counties of Washington are placed in a separate pricing area for green peas. The permitted increases and price ranges in this new area are 5 cents per dozen for No. 2 cans and approximately 25 cents per dozen for No. 10 cans higher than the corresponding permitted increases and price ranges for Area 5. Tables 3, 4, and 8 are amended by the addition of the appropriate price data for this new Area 6.

The specific dollars-and-cents maximum prices for processors who were not in business in 1941 or who made no sales of packed peas during the base period (Part 4 of Table 4) and the grade differentials (Part 4 of Table 8) applicable to blends of sieve sizes have been amended to correct errors of computation. These changes in maximum prices made in this amendment for No. 2 cans range from increases of 3 cents to decreases of 4 cents per dozen.

The definitions of blends of two sieve sizes and blends of three or four sieve sizes of peas, are revised and clarified. In addition, the provisions applicable to the pricing of blends of more than two sieve sizes have been amended to provide that the maximum price for a blend of three or four sieve sizes of sweet peas containing No. 6 sieve size shall be 11 cents per dozen for No. 2 cans and 56 cents per dozen

for No. 10 cans lower than the maximum price for blends of more than two sieve sizes of sweet peas not containing No. 6 sieve size.

A provision is added to the regulations that the maximum prices for Blair process peas packed in No. 308 cans shall be 13 cents per dozen more than the corresponding maximum price for No. 2 cans of peas which have not been subjected to the Blair process.

In Table 3, part 4, covering blends of sieve sizes, the following changes are made in the price ranges: Item 7 under No. 2 cans, Standard grade, the price range is changed from \$1.22-1.38 to \$1.22-1.36, and for Item 3 under No. 10 cans, Standard grade, the price range (Continued on page 8407)

## Date is Set for 1945 Processors' Conference

President G. Sherwin Haxton has announced that the annual Processors' Conference and Convention will be held in Chicago the week of February 4, 1945. Although the hotel situation in Chicago is much more congested than in previous years, by limiting the space to each canner organization, an attempt will be made to accommodate everyone attending the 1945 Conference. Later on a bulletin will be mailed to all N. C. A. members, indicating the hotel space which will be available.

## CALIFORNIA FRUIT COCKTAIL PRICES ARE SET BY OPA

Maximum prices for the 1944 pack of canned fruit cocktail processed in Area 1, California, are contained in Appendix F of Section 16 of Supplement 7 to Food Products Regulation 1, effective October 4, 1944, issued by the Office of Price Administration. Maximum prices for fruit cocktail processed in other States will be announced later. This appendix does not cover fruit mix canned in any State. Maximum prices for fruit mix canned in any State and fruit cocktail canned in States other than California will be determined under Pricing Method No. 2.

The permitted increases and the price ranges for No. 1 Tall, No. 2½, and No. 10 cans shown in Table 3 may be used by canners to establish their 1944 gross ceiling prices for any item shown, provided sales were made during the base period and a base price can be established. The gross ceiling price will be computed by adding the permitted increase to the base price, which is the weighted average selling price for the first 60 days after the beginning of the 1941 pack. If the result of this addition gives a figure that comes within the appropriate price range no adjustment is necessary. If, however, it is higher than the upper limit of the price range, it must be adjusted to the highest price of the range; if lower, it may be adjusted to the bottom price of the range.

The maximum prices thus established will be for sales to the civilian trade on and after October 4, 1944.

The maximum prices on government sales will be 96 per cent of the gross ceiling price as established above.

If a canner made no sales of canned fruit cocktail during the base period his gross ceiling will be the middle of the price range for each item. If a canner sold some but not all items of canned fruit cocktail during the base period, he may fill in the blanks in his price list by conversions from prices which he can establish. In making such conversions, the steps to be taken in figuring maximum prices should be made in the following order:

- (1) Convert for container size; (2) add the permitted increase for the grade of packed fruit cocktail sold in the base period; (3) convert for grade; (4) convert for syrup differential; (5) apply the limitations of the price range; (6) convert for grade; (7) convert for syrup differential; (8) convert for container type and size.

The explanation at the beginning of Appendix B covering canned apricots applies to this appendix for the purpose of making conversions, except that no conversion is provided for style of pack for fruit cocktail.

The term "grade" as used above refers to the grade of the fruit with a

## Change in Meeting Dates

The meeting of the Association's Administrative Council, previously scheduled for November 20 at Washington, has been changed to Monday, November 27, and the meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on November 28, or a week later than originally announced. Also, the meeting of the Labeling Committee has been changed from November 19 to November 26.

symp density which corresponds to the grade of the fruit. Syrup differentials are provided where the product is packed in syrup of a density that does not correspond to the grade of the fruit.

The conversions from tin to glass containers must be made in the 1944 prices and not in the base period prices. Even though a processor packed the item in glass during the base period he must first construct a 1944 maximum price for the item when packed in tin and then apply the appropriate conversion

factor. The maximum price for No. 2½ glass is 20 cents per dozen higher than that for No. 2½ cans, and for 306 glass 30 cents per dozen less than for No. 2½ cans.

Tables 3, 5, 7 and 8 of the Appendix are reproduced below. Tables 1, 2, 4 and 6 are omitted since the subject matter has been covered in the foregoing discussion.

The Appendix in complete form will be mailed, as soon as available, to California fruit cocktail canners.

TABLE 3. PERMITTED INCREASES AND PRICE RANGES PER DOZEN CONTAINERS FOR PROCESSORS OF PACKED FRUIT COCKTAIL WHO MADE SALES DURING THE BASE PERIOD

Style	No. 1 Tall cans		No. 2½ cans		No. 10 cans	
	Permitted increase	Price ranges	Permitted increase	Price ranges	Permitted increase	Price ranges
Fancy.....	\$0.58	\$1.88-\$1.89	\$0.92	\$3.12-\$3.20	\$3.80	\$11.55-\$11.55
Choice.....	.55	1.75-1.81	.87	2.90-3.05	3.59	10.72-10.98
Standard.....	.41	1.81-1.87	.64	2.52-2.58	2.64	9.44-9.68

TABLE 5. CONVERSION FACTORS—METAL CONTAINERS

To convert from a can size in this column		To a can size listed at the head of a column below, multiply by the appropriate conversion factor:			
8 oz.	No. 1 Tall	No. 2	No. 2½	No. 10	
8 oz.....	1.62	....	2.87	9.73	
No. 1 Tall.....	.60	1.25	1.72	5.83	
No. 2.....	.80	....	1.38	4.68	
No. 2½.....	.35	.58	.72	3.89	
No. 10.....	.10	.17	.21	.30	

TABLE 7. SYRUP DIFFERENTIALS

If you pack fruit in syrup of which the density does not correspond to the grade of the fruit, subtract the differential stated below for the grade from the prices computed from Tables 3 or 4 and add to the resulting figures the differential for the syrup you do use. (Dollars per dozen containers.)

Syrup	No. 1 Tall cans	No. 2½ cans	No. 10 cans
Extra heavy (Fancy).....	\$0.11	\$0.21	\$0.67
Heavy (Choice).....	.08	.15	.48
Light (Standard).....	.05	.10	.31

The density of the syrup referred to above is defined as follows:

"Extra heavy syrup" means syrup having a cut-out density of 22°-35° Brix.

"Heavy syrup" means syrup having a cut-out density of 18°-22° Brix.

"Light syrup" means syrup having a cut-out density of 14°-18° Brix.

TABLE 8. GRADE DIFFERENTIALS—DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SUCCESSIVE GRADES (DOLLARS PER DOZEN CONTAINERS)

Grade	No. 1 Tall cans	No. 2½ cans	No. 10 cans
Fancy and Choice.....	\$0.10	\$0.14	\$0.70
Choice and Standard.....	.24	.47	1.29

## WPB Group Makes Plans for Reconversion after V-E Day

J. A. Krug, Acting Chairman of the War Production Board, announced October 1, that the special task committee appointed to work out the details of the WPB V-E Day plan has completed the first phase of its operation. A draft has been developed and is being distributed to other government agencies and to WPB industry division for comment and suggestions. It is subject to change and should not be considered final, Mr. Krug said.

To carry out the WPB reconversion program after V-E day, the task committee made the following proposals:

1. Replacement of the present preference rating structure by a single,

fully extendable, MM rating band, reserved almost exclusively for direct military requirements, including military Lend-lease.

2. Continuation of the AAA preference rating, which will be used to break military production bottlenecks, and for civilian emergencies of a serious nature.

3. Authorization for steel, copper, and aluminum mills and warehouses to accept orders and make deliveries of these materials without CMP "tickets," and complete elimination of the Controlled Materials Plan as soon as practicable thereafter. However, orders placed prior to V-E Day for CMP materials should retain preferred status for a limited period.

4. A transition to the new priorities policy that will combine a minimum of paper work and reshuffling of production schedules with necessary protec-

tion of military procurement and the earliest possible achievement of free action in the civilian economy.

5. Revocation on V-E Day of the great bulk of conservation, limitation, and other WPB orders and regulations; retention of orders in simplified form only where clearly necessary to protect military procurement or minimum civilian requirements, and progressive revocation of remaining orders as quickly as feasible.

6. Maintenance of an effective organization to deal with emergencies.

## Carroll Resigns from OPA

The resignation of Jean F. Carroll as director of the OPA Food Price Division of the Office of Price Administration has been announced by Price Administrator Chester Bowles. The resignation will become effective November 15, when Mr. Carroll will return to private industry.

"Mr. Carroll has been in war service at Washington for more than two years and at my urgent request he has remained with us during recent months at substantial personal sacrifice," Mr. Bowles said. "Under the circumstances, I felt it impossible to ask him to remain longer with the agency."

Mr. Carroll was formerly director of research for the Meredith Publishing Company of Des Moines, Iowa. Later he formed the sales consulting agency of Carroll and Pelz in New York City and in 1937 went to the Kroger Grocer and Baking Company as assistant to the general manager. From July, 1942, to May, 1943, he was a special consultant to Brig. Gen. Carl A. Hardigg, chief of the Army Subsistence Branch, and in June, 1943, he became assistant director of the OPA Food Rationing Division. Two months later he was named director of the Food Price Division.

## OPA Names Standards Officer

Edward J. Hennessy has been named Acting Standards Officer for the Office of Price Administration, James F. Brownlee, OPA Deputy Administrator, announced October 1.

Mr. Hennessy, who will be on Mr. Brownlee's staff, will be available for general consultation on standards problems and will also handle standards work in the Food Price Division. Before going to OPA in 1941 as head of the Food and Drug Section of the Standards Division, Mr. Hennessy was connected with the technological division of Erwin Wasey Company, Ltd., Chicago, for two years and, prior to that, worked for six years in the North Dakota State Laboratories.

## OPA ANNOUNCES CEILING PRICES FOR CONCORD GRAPES AND REMOVES APPLES FROM RESTRICTIONS OF MPR 425

Maximum prices for Concord grapes, sold for processing, were announced October 5 by the Office of Price Administration. At the same time, OPA removed from price control apples sold for processing. The agency said that these ceilings are not enforceable, because it is impossible to obtain adequate inspection service. Forthcoming ceilings for processed apples will be based upon prices to be reflected to producers.

Effective October 6, Amendment 10 to Maximum Price Regulation 425 sets ceilings on Concord grapes sold for processing which are the same as the prices recommended by the War Food Administration and approved by the Office of Economic Stabilization as necessary to secure the high production needed to assure ample supplies of jams, jellies and preserves for the armed forces and for civilian use.

The grapes priced in the order include: Concord, Early Concord, Cottage, Eaton, Fredonia, Hicks, King, Moore Early, Rockwood and Worden.

Effect of the new ceilings on retail prices of jams, jellies and preserves will be announced when ceilings on those products are established, the agency said.

The new ceilings on grapes delivered to the processor's customary receiving point, are: \$85 per ton for area 1 (Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Ohio, Michigan, North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, Nebraska, Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin and Minnesota), and \$52 per ton in area 2 (Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana and Wyoming).

These ceilings compare with last year's maximum prices of \$85 per ton in New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio; \$75 per ton in Michigan and \$45 per ton in Washington. Only these five States were covered by last year's ceilings.

Other fruits and vegetables still priced under MPR 425 are horseradish roots, blackberries, boysenberries, dewberries, gooseberries, loganberries, strawberries and youngberries. All other fruits and vegetables for processing are priced under Supplement 7 to Food Products Regulation 1.

### WFA Offers Canned Corn

The War Food Administration is offering for sale to the original processors 121,376 cases of 1942 pack canned corn, packed 24 No. 2 cans to the case. The closing date for receiving offers to purchase this corn will be October 14, 1944. It is listed for sale as follows:

10,928 cases Cream Golden Extra Standard—Cokato and Fairmont, Minn.; Princeville, Ill.

13,174 cases Whole Kernel Golden Extra Standard—Eden and Waupum, Wis.; Fairmont, Minn.

14,526 cases Country Gentleman White Extra Standard—Streator and Princeville, Ill.

14,020 cases Whole Kernel Golden Fancy—Fairmont, Wis.

47,101 cases Cream White Standard—Waldron, Fairland, Hoopeston, and DeKalb, Ill.; Grimes and Marengo, Iowa.

21,637 cases Cream White Extra Standard—Reinbeck and Lebanon, Ill.; Peru, Ind.

### Canners Receive "A" Awards

Nine canning plants in four States will be presented with the War Food Administration achievement "A" award at ceremonies which are being arranged. The award is made in recognition of outstanding performance in the processing of food. Plants to receive the award are:

California—Three plants of the California Conserving Company, Inc., Hayward Kitchen plant, Hayward, Mt. View Supply Co. plant, Mt. View, and Pacific Packing Co. plant, Oakdale; California Packing Corp., Monterey; H. J. Heinz Co., Berkeley; and Stanislaus Canning Co., Modesto.

Florida—Havana Canning Co., Havana.

Louisiana—B. F. Trappey's Sons, Inc., Lafayette.

Vermont—Green Mountain Packing Co., Inc., St. Albans.

### Additional Canned Peas Offers

The War Food Administration is offering for sale to the original processors 52,123 cases of 1942 and 1943 pack canned peas. This is the second offering against a total of approximately 500,000 cases which are being released from government-owned stocks because they are no longer needed to meet requirements of war services. The initial offer to the original processors was 119,748 cases. Subsequent offers from the 500,000 cases will be made as soon as the condition and grade are certified.

The 52,123 cases being offered consist of 50,417 cases packed 24 No. 2 cans to the case and 1,706 cases packed 6 No. 10 cans to the case. Offers to purchase must be received by WFA not later than October 14, 1944. They are listed for sale at the following locations:

10,205 cases (24/2's) located at Cincinnati, Ohio; 18,497 cases (24/2's) at

Niagara Falls, N. Y.; 9,549 cases (24/2's) at Columbus, Ohio; 11,170 cases (24/2's) at Hilton, N. Y.; 906 cases (24/2's) at Warsaw, Ind., and 1,706 cases (6/10's) located at Hilton, N. Y.

### Surplus Property Disposal and Reconversion Acts Signed

President Roosevelt on October 3 signed the Surplus Property Disposal, and War Mobilization and Reconversion Acts. (A discussion of these measures can be found in the INFORMATION LETTERS for August 2, September 2, and September 23.)

The President also announced the resignation of Will L. Clayton, present Surplus Property Administrator. Mr. Clayton, who previously denounced the new Surplus Property Disposal Act as unworkable, has agreed to remain as surplus property administrator until a majority of the newly created Surplus Property Board takes office.

The President previously had announced that War Mobilization Director James F. Byrnes would continue as Director of the new War Mobilization Board until a successor is appointed.

### Canned Snap Beans Offered

An additional 55,958 cases of canned snap beans are being offered for sale to the original processors, the War Food Administration has announced. The beans consist of 25,798 cases packed 24 No. 2 cans to the case, 3,501 cases packed 24 No. 2½ cans to the case, and 26,659 cases packed 6 No. 10 cans to the case.

This is the second offering against a total of approximately 400,000 cases which are being released from Government stocks for civilian use. The initial offer to original processors was 78,533 cases. Subsequent offers to original processors from the 400,000 cases will be made as grade and condition are certified, the WFA said.

These beans are from the 1942 and 1943 packs and consist of Grade B, Grade C and a combination of sieve sizes. Some are of the cut wax variety and others the cut green stringless variety. Offers to purchase must be received by WFA not later than October 14, 1944. They are listed for sale at the following locations:

25,798 cases (24/2's) at Richmond, Va.; Roanoke, Va.; Houston, Tex.; Memphis, Tenn.; Waverly, N. Y.; Baltimore, Md.; and Salisbury, Md.

3,501 cases (24/2½'s) at Richmond, Va.

26,659 cases (6/10's) at Houston, Tex.; Louisville, Ky.; Memphis, Tenn.; Camden, N. J.; Richmond, Va.; Baltimore, Md.; and Harrisburg, Pa.



## FOOD INDUSTRY CONFERENCE ON POST-WAR PROBLEMS

The Food Industry Conference (held in Washington September 26 to 28), in which officials of the Office of Price Administration, War Food Administration, the Army, and 28 persons representing the food industry participated, discussed a wide range of problems which will confront canners as well as all other segments of the food industry when V-E day arrives. While the Conference did not formulate a program to meet the problems of reconversion after the Germans are defeated, it did afford an opportunity for the several government agencies concerned to obtain the food industry's thinking at this time. And, by the same token, it gave the representatives of the industry a chance to review the steps the Government has taken and plans to take in helping the industry readjust itself to a peacetime basis. Among the questions raised at the Conference were:

Should there be removal of production restrictions after V-E day?

What will be the possible effect of the continuance of the support price program (mandatory for a period of time under the law) on the maintenance of manufacturer and consumer prices for agricultural commodities?

What prices will we have to pay to meet world competition on such items as coffee, cocoa beans, spices, etc.—will these require price increases to consumers? Can the difference between paying prices and present consumer prices be covered by government subsidy? Would it be more desirable to hold down American consumption and ration these commodities?

What is the export situation? Can WFA get rid of any surplus by selling in competition with world prices? Would it be necessary to sell abroad at prices below WFA support prices and subsidize the difference?

When can ceiling prices be removed?

Is it desirable to revoke the present regulations as individual commodities fall below their ceilings even if there was some risk that later inflationary pressures might cause such prices to exceed present ceilings?

What about temporary suspension for 30, 60, or 90 day periods (something like removing ration points to 0) to try out the idea, and, if the reaction was unfavorable, terminate the suspension? (In this connection OPA officials stated it was their desire to eliminate any regulations and trade practice restrictions at the earliest possible date, so long as there was little chance for prices, at a later date, to exceed present ceilings).

The industry representatives were asked to discuss the above questions and after reaching some conclusions, make some recommendations concern-

ing them. Accordingly, the following recommendations were among those made:

OPA wartime controls should be completely eliminated at the earliest possible date.

Much closer coordination between OPA and WFA and between both and industry should prevail during the period of reconversion or readjustment.

Rationing should be suspended on all food commodities still under rationing, where it looks like a surplus might develop now or later.

OPA should study both fresh and processed food commodities and suspend price ceilings on an experimental basis where supplies appear to be adequate, abundant, or in immediate danger of surplus.

In many cases government surplus food stocks will be accompanied by a general surplus in civilian channels. In such cases ceiling prices should be promptly suspended.

In the sale of surplus foods by the Government, the Government should take as its ceiling price for such sale, the original packer's current ceiling price except when the original packer does not purchase, in which case the current ceiling price of the competitive packer should apply, less in all cases, an allowance for re-handling and re-selling, which, in current offerings of surplus canned vegetables, is 6 per cent.

Removal (or suspension) of ceiling prices need not wait for general supply and demand to be in balance for the whole economy, but should occur by commodity or in some cases by groups of related commodities, and where a ceiling is removed or suspended on a product at any one level it should be so at all levels (producer, processor, distributor and retailer).

Price control should be removed on any commodity whenever stocks, movement, prices, or other factors, indicate that supply and demand are in reasonable balance at ceiling prices or lower.

Price control should be suspended or removed when a prospective situation indicates selling prices are likely to be lower than ceiling prices.

The removal or suspension of price controls need not wait until the supply and demand has been brought into balance for each and every item of a given product. For example, it is quite possible that the supply and demand for meat might be such as to warrant suspension of price controls, whereas for certain cuts of meat the supply might be short. Likewise in the case of canned fruits or canned vegetables, the basis of consideration should be the group rather than that of an individual canned fruit or vegetable.

In some instances, as an alternative to a price ceiling being adjusted upward to meet a situation, it might be a good

alternative to remove or suspend price control and let prices of that item seek their own level.

In some cases a program of prompt relief of individual hardships might bring about increased production and reduce pressure on ceilings.

In some cases revocation might be possible from the start, in others temporary suspension would be the answer, although it may not always be possible to reach a decision by the end of the period of the suspension; in such cases an extension of the suspension might be necessary. In any event complete revocation should take place as soon as possible.

The industry representatives voiced their disapproval of subsidies in principle but agreed some sort of subsidies were necessary as long as the "hold the line order" was in effect. They recommend that all "roll backs" be removed as soon as possible and that prices be permitted to seek their proper levels.

In a discussion of the effect of price supports on the vegetable canning industry it was pointed out that in order to obtain the desired acreage, canners are forced to negotiate prices with growers at levels which make it necessary for the canning industry to demand support prices for their production, too.

### State Convention Dates

Florida—October 27, Tampa Terrace Hotel, Tampa.

Indiana—November 16 and 17, Claypool Hotel, Indianapolis.

Iowa-Nebraska—December 7 and 8, Hotel Fort Des Moines, Des Moines.

Michigan—November 2 and 3, Pantlind Hotel, Grand Rapids.

New York—December 14 and 15, Hotel Statler, Buffalo.

Ohio—December 12 and 13, place to be announced.

Pennsylvania—November 9 and 10, Yorktowne Hotel, York.

Southern California Food Processors Association—December 5, place to be announced.

Texas—November 6, Casa de Palmas Hotel, McAllen.

Tri-States—November 30-December 1, Claridge Hotel, Atlantic City.

Virginia—December 6, Hotel Roanoke, Roanoke.

Wisconsin—November 13 and 14, Schroeder Hotel, Milwaukee.

The date of the convention of the Association of New York State Canners has been changed from December 7 and 8 to December 14 and 15. The meeting will be held at the Hotel Statler in Buffalo, New York.

## WFA ISSUES DETAILS OF 1944 KRAUT PROGRAM

### New Support Prices Designed to Permit Packers to Pay Up to \$22 Per Ton for Cabbage

The War Food Administration has announced the details of a program to support prices of kraut by making specified payments to packers to reimburse them on any civilian sales below the appropriate support levels based on \$12 per ton for cabbage. This announcement is in fulfillment of the March 4 commitment to support this year's kraut cabbage crop at \$12 per ton to growers.

The WFA announcement follows that of the Office of Price Administration which stated that price ceilings on kraut for the 1944 pack will be based on average prices that packers actually pay for cabbage, up to a maximum of \$22 per ton delivered at customary receiving point.

WFA officials point out to growers that this basis for establishing ceilings on kraut does not mean an increase in the support price of \$12 per ton for cabbage for kraut, or that WFA will support cabbage at a higher price than \$12; nor does this indicate what the support price, if any, for cabbage may be next year.

In view of the production outlook for kraut, the support program as originally planned probably will not be used by many packers because the prospective light pack of kraut should sell readily at levels above the appropriate support prices. To carry out its obligations in accordance with its March 4 commitment, however, the support program will be provided to protect certified kraut packers against possible price declines below appropriate support levels and inventory losses which may result from lack of sufficient consumer type containers for marketing kraut to civilians, the WFA said. Official text of the WFA announcement follows:

The support program applies only to packers certified by the State Agricultural Conservation Committees as having agreed to contract with producers for at least the specified \$12 per ton support price for cabbage, and only to that kraut which is produced from one filling of the packer's tank or vat capacity, or equal to the quantity of kraut cut by a packer during the period August 1 through November 30, 1942, in cases where a packer has no tanks or vats and customarily cuts cabbage into barrels.

Support prices under the program will be based on an average price paid by packers for all contracted and uncontracted cabbage. The maximum support price will be 18¢ per gallon bulk basis f.o.b. packer's plant, when the price

paid for both contracted and uncontracted cabbage cut during the period August 1 through November 30 averages not less than \$12 per ton (any price paid in excess of \$12 per ton will be considered as being \$12 in calculating the average price paid). For each \$1 or part thereof by which the packer's raw-material costs average below \$12 per ton, a reduction of ¼¢ per gallon will be made. Thus, if a packer's average cost for cabbage is between \$11.00 and \$11.99 per ton the support price will be 17¼¢ per gallon. If between \$10.00 and \$10.99 per ton the price will be 16½¢ per gallon.

Support-price operations will be accomplished by the WFA making reimbursing payments to packers on civilian sales of kraut below the appropriate support level equal to the difference between that level and designated "floor" levels subject to these limitations:

1. The effective period of support shall be between August 1, 1944, and April 1, 1945, and shall apply to kraut produced from cabbage cut into packer's vats, tanks, or barrels from August 1 through November 30, 1944.

2. The WFA shall have the option to make reimbursing payment to packers in lieu of purchasing the kraut.

3. In the event packers have occasion to sell below the appropriate support level they must first communicate with the WFA in order to give this agency an opportunity to exercise its option to purchase the kraut.

4. Payments will be limited to actual packout yield but in no event to exceed 135 gallons of kraut from every ton of cabbage processed.

5. The rate of reimbursing payments on civilian sales between August 1 and December 1, 1944, shall be the difference between the applicable support price, in no event to exceed 18¢, and 14¼¢ per gallon or a maximum payment of 3¼¢ per gallon. For sales made between December 1, 1944, and April 1, 1945, the rate of payment shall be the difference between the applicable support price and 12¢ per gallon or a maximum payment of 6¢ per gallon. Sales below 14¼¢ and below 12¢ per gallon during these periods shall be considered as being 14¼¢ and 12¢, respectively.

6. With respect to the quantity of kraut left unsold in packer's hands on April 1, 1945, WFA may either purchase such kraut or make payments of the difference between the appropriate support level and 12¢ per gallon.

7. In no event shall payments be made on any kraut if it is determined that market prices are at or above the appropriate support levels.

8. To be eligible for payment, kraut must meet the requirements of U. S. Grade C or better.

If the WFA chooses to purchase kraut instead of making reimbursing payments, such purchases will be limited to carload lots of U. S. Grade C or better. Further purchase details

will be furnished packers who offer kraut to the WFA under this program.

In the event tin is made available, the entire support program shall be terminated and no reimbursing payments will be made on any kraut sold or delivered after the date when the use of tin for kraut is authorized and no purchases of the kraut will be made by the WFA. The glass conservation order, L-103-b, issued July 18, 1944, permits packers to use glass and closures for kraut up to 100 per cent of their usage for kraut during 1942 or 1943 calendar years.

Packers who desire to participate in the program and who may have occasion to sell kraut below the appropriate support level should communicate with the Fruit and Vegetable Branch, Office of Distribution, War Food Administration, Washington 25, D. C., prior to November 1, 1944.

## OPA AMENDMENT

(Concluded from page 8403)

is changed from \$5.99-6.60 to \$5.80-6.60.

In Table 3 of Appendix B covering canned asparagus, the limitations of the price range are increased for all green cut spears by 95 cents per dozen No. 10 cans in Area 4 (New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland). The corresponding changes are also made in Tables 4 and 6.

In the table covering grade differentials on canned asparagus the following differentials between Standard and Substandard are added: 10 cents per dozen for No. 2 cans and 50 cents per dozen for No. 10 cans.

Appendix E covering canned tomatoes is amended as follows: Certain counties in Northeast Oklahoma and Northwest Arkansas are changed from Area 5 to Area 4. These counties are now being included in the pricing area as the States of Missouri and Kansas. The counties affected are as follows:

Oklahoma (Washington, Nowata, Craig, Ottawa, Tulsa, Rogers, Mayes, Delaware, Wagoner, Cherokee, Adair, Okmulgee, Muskogee, Sequoyah, McIntosh, Haskell and LeFlore counties). Arkansas (Benton, Carroll, Boone, Baxter, Washington, Madison, Newton, Searcy, Stone, Crawford, Franklin, Johnson, Pope, VanBuren, Sebastian, Logan, Conway, Scott and Yell counties.)

The explanation of how maximum prices are figured under Pricing Method No. 1, and Section 5 have been clarified in this amendment to indicate more clearly when a processor takes the dollar and cents prices named in the regulation. Section 5 is amended by adding the following immediately preceding paragraph (a): "When used in this section, the phrase 'sold during the base period' or 'not sold during the base period,' or words of similar import, refer to sales of the product, of goods produced in a particular area."

### Hearing is Called on Bill to Raise Minimum Wage Level

Senator Claude Pepper, Chairman of a special Senate Labor Subcommittee, has scheduled hearings to begin October 11 on his resolution seeking to raise the Nation's minimum wage level from 40 to 65 cents per hour. Senator Pepper said that he expected to call in representatives of labor, business, and Government for the hearings.

Stating that the War Labor Board has authority "to correct substandards of living," Senator Pepper said that there is a need for a new definition of what constitutes a wage so low as to create substandard living. The enabling clause quoted from the text of the Pepper resolution (S. Con. Res. 48) follows:

"That it is the sense of the Congress that a straight time hourly rate of 65 cents per hour is the minimum below which the National War Labor Board shall consider any wage rate substandard."

### Cranberry Prices Increased

By Amendment 59 to Maximum Price Regulation 426, effective October 6, the Office of Price Administration has increased the price which processors may reflect in their maximum prices for products made from cranberries from \$20.00 per barrel to \$21.40 per barrel for the raw fruit. This action was taken, OPA said, to maintain the same relationship of cranberries sold for the fresh market and for processing.

### Nash Succeeds Taylor

Arthur Nash of Newark, N. Y., has been named to succeed Lee A. Taylor as secretary of the Association of New York State Cannerymen. Mr. Nash, who is a graduate of Colgate University and holds a Master's degree from the University of Rochester, has been actively engaged in association work of various kinds and at the time of his employment was engaged in the educational field.

### Maximum Fruit Pack Urged

There is no reason for canners of processed fruits to hesitate because of rationing controls to produce a maximum pack, the Office of Price Administration said in an announcement to fruit canners. The statement was made after reports that some canners of fruit, particularly apples and applesauce, are

hesitant to produce a maximum pack because of present ration point values.

It is the agency's aim, OPA said, in so far as it can be done by point value adjustments, to permit all of the canned fruit allocated to civilians from the pack to move out before next year's production becomes available.

To encourage packers to produce as much as possible, OPA explained the functions of point values as follows:

Point values are put on each processed food item to make the supply last from one pack to the next. Whether that point value is relatively high or low depends on the actual rate of movement of the commodity into consumption. If the movement in relation to the supply is too rapid, point values are increased. On the other hand, if movement in relationship to the supply available to civilians is too slow, a point value reduction is indicated.

### Sardine Landings Fall Below Last Season's, Reports Show

The season's landings of Pacific sardines at northern California ports totaled 82,715 tons by September 16, or about 22 per cent below landings for the same period last year, the Office of the Coordinator of Fisheries announced October 5. The landings reported were made during a period of approximately six weeks since the season opened in northern California August 1. The sardine fishing season from the southern ports of San Pedro and San Diego legally opened October 1.

Some decline in the catch this year had been expected, officials of the Coordinator's Office said, on the basis of predictions by federal biologists that the fish would be relatively scarce. The sardine population has recently experienced a series of poor spawning seasons, with no important numbers of young fish added to the stock since 1939.

As of September 16 this year, 430,187 cases of canned sardines had been packed, compared with 561,819 cases packed from the larger catch by the same date last year.

### Canadian Salmon Catch Lower

Although salmon fishing in British Columbia this year started a week earlier than usual the catch has been relatively poor and it is expected that the pack will total about 1,000,000 cases or 500,000 cases less than predicted, according to the U. S. Department of Commerce. Pilchard runs which failed to materialize earlier in the season have since improved and the catch as of early

September amounted to 26,316 tons or 52 per cent less than for the corresponding period of 1943.

### War Labor Board Modifies Procedure for Raising Wages

The National War Labor Board October 2 issued instructions to its Regional Boards and Industry Commissions which provide that they may approve without reference to the National Board voluntary wage progression schedules which do not raise the employee to the top of his rate range faster than 12 months for unskilled jobs, 18 months for semi-skilled jobs and 24 months for skilled jobs.

Automatic progression to the midpoint of a rate range may be approved if the speed of the progression is not faster than four months for unskilled job, six months for semi-skilled jobs or eight months for skilled jobs.

The above plans are alternative to the progression plan in General Order No. 31, which governs individual adjustments, or to "any other plan properly in existence which an employer may have been using for the intra-range movement of employees," the instructions said.

### Smith is New Texas Secretary

J. O. Smith of Austin, Texas, Director of the Bureau of Food and Drugs of the Texas State Health Department has been appointed secretary of the Texas Cannerymen Association to succeed James A. Burch, who recently resigned to enter private business. Mr. Smith is a graduate of the School of Law at Baylor University and in his capacity as Director of the Bureau of Food and Drugs has been in close contact with the canning industry of Texas in recent years.

### New Association Members

The following firms have been admitted into membership in the Association since September 2, 1944:

Minster Canning Co., Minster, Ohio.  
Escalon Packers, Inc., Escalon, Calif.  
Ridge Growers Cooperative, Inc., Frostproof, Fla.  
Three Ribbons Packing Co., Mountain View, Calif.

Due to a typographical error in the list of new members appearing in the INFORMATION LETTER under date of September 2, the address of the Henry County Canning Co. was given as Martinsville, Pa. The correct address of this firm is Martinsville, Va.